

April 25, 2005

Representative Kathy Angerer
Michigan State House
Via Fax (517) 373-7757

RE: House Bill 6059

Dear Rep. Angerer:

As we have discussed, there is an important issue before our state legislators, about which we, the Michigan auto racing track owners/operators, have strong feelings. The issue is that of a law which restricts places of business which hold food licenses from allowing patrons to bring alcoholic beverages onto their property.

Specifically, if enforced, this action would have a devastating effect on the auto racing industry in Michigan. As you know, there are 49 drag strips and oval tracks in the state. The Michigan Speedway Promoters' Association (MSPA) was founded in 1973 and exists for the purpose of providing a forum for motorsports track operators in the State of Michigan to exchange information, resolve issues, promote the sport and strengthen the industry as a whole. If those track operators who do not possess a license to sell alcoholic beverages are forced to restrict alcoholic beverages from being carried in and consumed during racing events by spectators, it would create a tremendous economic hardship in lost ticket sales revenue.

I'd like to make it clear that this issue does not affect me as the owner of Flat Rock Speedway, since we own a tavern license. However, many tracks which do not possess a license to sell alcoholic beverages have indicated to the MSPA their concerns about their ability to remain competitive for the entertainment dollar.

For the sake of the overall health of the motorsports industry in the state of Michigan, I urge you to research and consider supporting the MSPA's position on House Bill 6059.

Sincerely,

Ron Drager
Owner, Flat Rock Speedway
President, MSPA